

Charlotte Democrat.

CHARLOTTE, N. C.

FOR THE CHARLOTTE DEMOCRAT.

Flint Hill Church.

On the road from Charlotte to Yorkville, just within the South Carolina line, and on the top of a hill, there stands a very pretty church named the Flint Hill Church. In the days long ago, there stood on the same spot a church called originally Sugar Creek Church, but in later days the name was changed to Flint Hill, which name it holds to the present day.

I do not know the exact date this church was founded, but its founder was Elder John Rooker, a Minister of the Baptist faith. The land was owned by Isaac Withers, who came to that place from about Richmond, Va., and was donated for the purpose of erecting a church. Mr. Rooker was also from Virginia, and it may have been that a previous acquaintance of these gentlemen in Virginia, opened up the way of their friendly relations in South Carolina, and resulted in the founding of the church.

In the church yard close by we find the remains of Elder John Rooker. The marble which marks his last resting place, tells us that he was born in 1755, and died in 1841, at 85 years of age. He was a Minister for 58 years, 49 of which was spent in the pastorate of Flint Hill Church, which charge he held at the time of his death. During this pastorate, however, his labors were not confined to South Carolina alone, for we can claim a part of the fruits of his labors. A few years ago, on my way through the country to Newton, I passed a church in Lincoln county, at the foot of the "Little Mountains," which had been founded by him. In those days, when there were no railroads, what a distance to get away from his grave. This church seemed right and sound, and gave promise of many years of usefulness. All that I knew of him, and the universal verdict is recorded on his tombstone that "He was a man of sound doctrine, and earnestly contended for the faith once delivered to the saints as believed by the regular Baptist Church."

As we might expect we also find here a stone which guards the mortal remains of Isaac Withers, and informs us that he died in 1814, aged 79 years, which would fix his birth at 1735. His three sons and a few of their children lie close beside him. A few of the members of this family remain in South Carolina, but many of them have scattered to other States. His birth antedates that of any other buried here.

The first, however, to be interred are Beckey, William and Polly, who died in 1801, and whose deaths are all recorded on the same stone. It is to be supposed they were of the same family. The letters on these are the old English, which we rarely see now. The John Smith that is buried here, died in 1813, aged 66 years, and was a deacon in the Baptist Church, and therefore a good man. His wife, Mary, lies beside him, who died at 64 years of age.

While it is not relevant to the Church, I could not but think, as I stood there of the changes that had taken place since 1744. The United States has become a country independent; France has been a Kingdom and a Republic; the Southern Confederacy has been born and died. Railroads have been built, and the universal telephone, cotton gin, electric lights, &c., have come into use. In those days when the cotton was gathered by the young folks had a party and the boys and girls would play on the hill, and first fill their own shoes with cotton seed. After it was baled, then a trip in a wagon to Columbia, or Charney, was necessary to take it to market. Yet, although the changes and the universal progress has been made, do we have the men whose names will go down to posterity as will those of the men of that time? Do we more happy, and have we increased the love of country, God and the Truth?

Preachers ought to be held responsible for marrying children. The Charlotte Hornet tells of the marriage at Mountain Island of two children, neither of whom are sixteen years old. What a farce is marriage when entered into by immature and thoughtless children? Bad results—and only bad results—can come from such marriages. The preacher ought to be made to give a good and satisfactory explanation of aiding and abetting in this misery-making business, or his power to marry ought to be revoked. The children ought to be spanked and sent to their mothers.—*Raleigh Chronicle.*

[Yes, they ought to be held responsible for marrying children and runaway couples of any sort. Many preachers are a disgrace to their profession.]

THE SOLICITOR OF THE DISTRICT PRESENTED. We learn that at the term of Johnston Court recently ended, Solicitor Argo was presented by the grand jury for inattention to duty. Inasmuch, however, as the jury did not specify in what the inattention consisted the Judge on the bench did not ask the drawing of a bill of indictment of some member of the bar, as he would probably have done in other cases. It is to be hoped that the habits of the Solicitor have for some while been so unfortunate that he has at times been unable to perform the duties of his office.—*Raleigh Observer.*

[Who was the Judge that allowed a delinquent officer to escape punishment for such a crime?]

On October the 10th, the Piedmont Exposition Company will hold its first fair at Atlanta, Ga. It will close on the 22d of the same month. The officers are Georgianians, but the "Honorary Vice Presidents" are numerous and from seven States. The following are those from North Carolina: Sydenham Alexander, Charlotte; W. H. Borden, Goldsboro; J. R. Holland, Charlotte; J. W. Cooper, Murphy; William Johnston, Charlotte; R. S. Tucker, Raleigh; O. M. Sadler, Charlotte; W. C. Upchurch, Raleigh; John Wilkes, Charlotte; A. H. Motley, Reidsville; W. T. Blackwell, Durham; John M. Ketchum, Salisbury; W. Duke, Durham; Dedrick Davis, Salem; Henry T. Collins, Flat Rock; S. A. Sharpe, Statesville; J. L. King, Greensboro; R. R. Crawford, Winston.

TRouble ABOUT A REQUISITION.—Some time ago Gov. Lee of Virginia, issued a requisition on Gov. Foraker of Ohio, for Watt Odell, who was charged with burglary in Virginia. Mr. Pummell, of Ohio was commissioned to bring the prisoner home, but the Ohio authorities required that somebody be sent who could identify the prisoner. William J. Carper, of Pulaski, was then designated to execute the mission, but he telegraphed that Gov. Foraker had revoked the warrant, and so Odell is now at large.—*Richmond Dispatch.*

[That shows Gov. Foraker to be a man not abiding by the law, scoundrel, and if caught in Virginia should be made to take the place of the released burglar.]

A JUST DECISION.—The Georgia courts have recently rendered a decision in regard to usury which will probably help planters out of difficulties which they assumed with their eyes open. It appears that many farmers in that State have been in the habit of borrowing money through agents. These agents after securing a large interest for their principals undertake to reserve another large slice for their commissions, and upon this point the farmers kicked and the courts say that they are not bound to pay more than the principal and legal interest. While the decision is undoubtedly a just one, it strikes as that the farmer who borrowed the money knowing that he would be charged certain commissions, is morally bound to pay it. If he did not know it then the agent who is endeavoring to collect it is simply a thief.

Perjury. In olden times perjury was punished most severely, but as time passed and in proportion to the relaxation of punishment the detestable crime of perjury increased, until to-day swearing falsely is just as common as swearing to the truth, if not more so.

No one who gives his attention to the proceedings of our courts, and will closely observe the examination of witnesses and particularly those witnesses who are interested as to the result, but will be forcibly impressed with the total disregard of truth. To escape punishment due to violation of law and gain the point at issue seems to be paramount to everything else and the most general way they adopt to avoid the truth when confronted upon cross examination with a searching question is, by saying, "I don't remember," or "I don't know," while to all questions favorable to their side, their memory is perfectly clear and they can readily tell all they know and more too.

We do not complain at the severity of the punishment, it may be sufficient, but we do complain at the total neglect of the Courts and the Solicitors, and all other good citizens, in not bringing this class of rascals to punishment at once. It is a disgrace to our courts, and when it becomes a matter of fact, as to a material fact, is swearing falsely, he should be immediately prayed into custody and required to give security for his appearance to answer to a charge of perjury. If a few of these gentry were dealt with pretty roughly it might be a terror to others.

Therefore, we call upon Judges and Solicitors, to make an example of some of them. It would have a wholesome influence among rascals.—*Hillsboro Recorder.*

[The Recorder is published by two prominent lawyers, and we think their suggestions should be heeded.]

That Agricultural College.

We may be wrong, but we believe the committee appointed to begin the building of the Agricultural and Mechanical college ought to suspend operation at once, and incur another dollar's expense under the name of the next Legislature. The Act passed with the avowed understanding that not one dollar of taxes were to be paid by the people of the State to build or run the institution, that the Agricultural Department was to do all. Now no more drummers' license will be bought at least for a time to come, and we believe never. The gano tax is still more unconstitutional, if possible, than the drummer's tax, and will be smothered before the College can be built. Then what? Well, we will tell you. A tax of from fifty to one hundred thousand dollars will be levied upon the property of the State yearly to complete and run the Institution. Well that is all right, maybe. But there will be a day of reckoning yet. We must be taxed to educate the negro, we must be taxed to educate the white man, and then we must be taxed to educate the dead beats and the worthless sons of superannuated broken-down politicians and drones; and then we must be taxed to build a college to educate boys in the State how to plow, hoe and reap. We are getting a little sick of so much education, unless it was of a better kind and cost less money. We are enthusiastically in favor of every body being highly educated, but we are desperately in favor of every man educating his own children. If this makes us against education, put us down as such.—*Scotland Neck Democrat.*

How Fashions Originate. I have always been interested in what I may call the genesis of fashion and happening some five or six years ago to meet at the house of a well-known enterprising London publisher, a young Frenchman who was, I was told, the publisher of some half dozen of the best Paris fashion magazines, he wanted to ask for some details of how, month after month, presented his subscribers with a series of new hats and dresses and bonnets and all the rest of it. He proved most communicative in his reply, and I learned that he kept in the establishment, not a poet like Mr. Moore, but two artists of repute, whose work it was to design new shapes and combinations of colors and forms. As to the source of their inspiration, he admitted that they not unfrequently went to the back volumes of the firm's fashion magazines, of which there were files reaching back to their very beginning, and having evolved a new bonnet or dress out of his inner consciousness, or by altering or developing some long-forgotten mode of the past, the artist had done his share of the work. The next thing to be done, according to my informant, was to induce the well-known leader of Parisian society or popular French actress to adopt one of the new-shaped hats or costumes, or whatever it might be. This accomplished, the success of a new mode was often assured, just as the success of a new song is often secured if some famous vocalist can only be induced to sing it in public.—*Figaro.*

[We have seen the statement that many of the vulgar and indecent fashions which have prevailed among females at different times, originated with the lewd and bad women in "high life" in Paris, London and New York.]

Gaston County Wins \$8,000.

In the huge law suit of Davenport, Treasurer of Gaston county, vs. McKee, ex-Sheriff of Gaston county, in which only twelve lawyers were employed, Gaston county was the victor after over four years litigation. The case for arrears of taxes claimed against McKee, began on Monday morning and terminated on Saturday afternoon by the jury bringing in a verdict for the plaintiff for \$2,216, with interest from July 11, 1883. This includes the \$1,700 for which McKee had a receipt signed, it is claimed, by Davenport and which the jury rejected as not genuine. The jury also directed judgment for \$2,216, with two per cent. interest from July 11, 1883, according to the Code, also \$2,500 penalty, with six per cent. from July 11, 1883 and \$2,324 costs for 140 witnesses, etc. This is a huge verdict, the largest ever recorded in our court calendars. Thus Gaston wins all she claimed, the penalty and \$2,216, pays no costs, and can let the six lawyers have a big slice—this verdict for \$11,000, including costs, if not annulled by the Supreme Court to which the defendant appealed on Saturday, will crush McKee and fall heavily on his bondsmen who will have to pay it. McKee last year paid his lawyers \$500 note with good security and now near \$11,000 will be the entire amount due for debt, penalty, costs and interests to date from July 11, 1883. A splendid array of counsel on each side, and both sides valiantly and ably contended every inch of ground for five days, and Gaston county, through her treasurer, is victor. McKee appeals to Supreme Court.—*Shelby Aurora.*

TRouble ABOUT A REQUISITION.—Some time ago Gov. Lee of Virginia, issued a requisition on Gov. Foraker of Ohio, for Watt Odell, who was charged with burglary in Virginia. Mr. Pummell, of Ohio was commissioned to bring the prisoner home, but the Ohio authorities required that somebody be sent who could identify the prisoner. William J. Carper, of Pulaski, was then designated to execute the mission, but he telegraphed that Gov. Foraker had revoked the warrant, and so Odell is now at large.—*Richmond Dispatch.*

[That shows Gov. Foraker to be a man not abiding by the law, scoundrel, and if caught in Virginia should be made to take the place of the released burglar.]

A JUST DECISION.—The Georgia courts have recently rendered a decision in regard to usury which will probably help planters out of difficulties which they assumed with their eyes open. It appears that many farmers in that State have been in the habit of borrowing money through agents. These agents after securing a large interest for their principals undertake to reserve another large slice for their commissions, and upon this point the farmers kicked and the courts say that they are not bound to pay more than the principal and legal interest. While the decision is undoubtedly a just one, it strikes as that the farmer who borrowed the money knowing that he would be charged certain commissions, is morally bound to pay it. If he did not know it then the agent who is endeavoring to collect it is simply a thief.

TRouble ABOUT A REQUISITION.—Some time ago Gov. Lee of Virginia, issued a requisition on Gov. Foraker of Ohio, for Watt Odell, who was charged with burglary in Virginia. Mr. Pummell, of Ohio was commissioned to bring the prisoner home, but the Ohio authorities required that somebody be sent who could identify the prisoner. William J. Carper, of Pulaski, was then designated to execute the mission, but he telegraphed that Gov. Foraker had revoked the warrant, and so Odell is now at large.—*Richmond Dispatch.*

[That shows Gov. Foraker to be a man not abiding by the law, scoundrel, and if caught in Virginia should be made to take the place of the released burglar.]

A JUST DECISION.—The Georgia courts have recently rendered a decision in regard to usury which will probably help planters out of difficulties which they assumed with their eyes open. It appears that many farmers in that State have been in the habit of borrowing money through agents. These agents after securing a large interest for their principals undertake to reserve another large slice for their commissions, and upon this point the farmers kicked and the courts say that they are not bound to pay more than the principal and legal interest. While the decision is undoubtedly a just one, it strikes as that the farmer who borrowed the money knowing that he would be charged certain commissions, is morally bound to pay it. If he did not know it then the agent who is endeavoring to collect it is simply a thief.

A JUST DECISION.—The Georgia courts have recently rendered a decision in regard to usury which will probably help planters out of difficulties which they assumed with their eyes open. It appears that many farmers in that State have been in the habit of borrowing money through agents. These agents after securing a large interest for their principals undertake to reserve another large slice for their commissions, and upon this point the farmers kicked and the courts say that they are not bound to pay more than the principal and legal interest. While the decision is undoubtedly a just one, it strikes as that the farmer who borrowed the money knowing that he would be charged certain commissions, is morally bound to pay it. If he did not know it then the agent who is endeavoring to collect it is simply a thief.

A JUST DECISION.—The Georgia courts have recently rendered a decision in regard to usury which will probably help planters out of difficulties which they assumed with their eyes open. It appears that many farmers in that State have been in the habit of borrowing money through agents. These agents after securing a large interest for their principals undertake to reserve another large slice for their commissions, and upon this point the farmers kicked and the courts say that they are not bound to pay more than the principal and legal interest. While the decision is undoubtedly a just one, it strikes as that the farmer who borrowed the money knowing that he would be charged certain commissions, is morally bound to pay it. If he did not know it then the agent who is endeavoring to collect it is simply a thief.

Collapse of the San Francisco Wheat Ring.

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 27.—The announcement was made at half past eleven o'clock this morning that Dresdenbach & Rosenfield, the bull operators in wheat, could not keep their agreement to accept all the wheat tendered them, and the call board was at once adjourned without any sales being effected. This is accepted as a complete collapse of the wheat ring.

The full significance of the crash will not be known for several days. While Rosenfield and Dresdenbach were supposed to be acting for John W. MacKay, James C. Flood and other large stockholders of the Nevada bank, the deals were all made in their name, and all contracts were made personally with them, without any additional guarantees. When the "corner" broke, August 2d, Dresdenbach & Rosenfield agreed to pay the difference between 2.07 and 1.70 per cent, or 37 cents per cent, in the four monthly payments; the first payment to fall due September 1st. The price of wheat fell steadily to \$1.30, but the bull clique was expected to be able to carry the big load, and announcement was made two days ago that the first instalment of money would be paid as agreed. The announcement to-day, therefore, that the two big brokers would break their word, was the last straw, and was accepted as a final surrender, and illustrated that all the enormous losses with the exception of possibly two million dollars advanced by the bull clique early in the deal, are to fall upon the brokers and others who had dealings with these two representatives of the other men, whose identity has not been disclosed. There is considerable excitement on the street. The feeling is very bitter among dealers, and the entire deal is spoken of as one of the worst in the history of the trade.

[It is hoped that all gamblers in the necessities of life and in cotton may come to ruin, so as to stop such operations.]

Cotton. From the N. Y. Financial Chronicle.

NEW YORK, Aug. 26.—The movement of the crop, as indicated by our telegrams from the South, is given below. For the week ending Aug. 26th the total receipts have reached 19,270 bales, against 9,649 bales last week, and 270,000 bales since the beginning of the season. The price was 1.49 and 1.49 1/2 cents per bale.

The exports for the week ending this evening reach a total of 22,315 bales, of which 17,585 were to Great Britain, 2,548 to France and 2,182 to the rest of the Continent.

Yesterday, notices were freely issued for deliveries in August contracts, with a very depressing effect upon options for this month and weakening the whole market, to which the fall of needed rains in Texas and liberal receipts at Galveston in some degree contributed. To-day there was a further decline, and a very unsettled feeling. Cotton on the spot has met with a good demand for export and home consumption, and quotations were advanced on Saturday, Tuesday and Wednesday—1.16c, middling uplands closing at 12.16c. The total sales for forward delivery for the week are 387,000 bales.

Weather and Crops. WASHINGTON, Aug. 28.—The following is the weather and crop bulletin of the Signal Office for the week ending Aug. 27: During the week the rainfall has been in excess in the States on the Atlantic coast, on the eastern slope of the Rocky Mountains as far east as the Missouri valley and Arkansas, and from Lake Erie westward to Iowa. Generally throughout the tobacco regions of Kentucky and Tennessee, and in the cotton region, the rainfall has been less than usual, but numerous showers have occurred in those districts. The large seasonable rainfall, exceeding an inch, continues in the lower Mississippi valley and the greater portions of Iowa and Illinois, although this deficiency has been slightly reduced by the recent rains in Iowa and northern Illinois. During the past month over 100 per cent. of the usual amount of rain occurred in the districts on the Atlantic coast and in Nebraska, Colorado, northern Minnesota, Virginia, southern Michigan and northern Indiana, while less than five per cent. of the usual amount of rain has occurred in southern Illinois, in southern Missouri, Arkansas, and in the extreme west portions of Kentucky and Tennessee. In the greater portion of the tobacco regions of Kentucky and Tennessee the rainfall has exceeded 75 per cent. of the usual amount during the month.

Reports are made that the rains during the past and previous weeks have doubtless proved favorable for the growing crops in the corn regions, although in the principal corn producing States the yield of this crop will doubtless be materially reduced, owing to the drought. Reports from the cotton regions show that the harvesting of that crop is in progress, but that the yield has been slightly reduced, owing to the deficiency of rainfall. During the week the weather has been especially favorable for pasture and late planted potatoes in the middle Atlantic States and in the northwest. Reports from New England indicate that the weather has been unfavorable to the growing crops, especially to tobacco and potatoes, owing to an excess of rainfall. Frost occurred during the week as far south as central Minnesota, but as yet have caused no material injury to the crops.

A Tar Heel Dog. Somebody has said that three years undisturbed possession of a setter dog will destroy the veracity of the best man that ever lived. What connection with the above has the following from the Wadesboro Intelligencer? "A little Wadesboro boy of nine years was quite sick, and a physician was summoned in haste, and a faithful setter dog, much attached to the little boy, was in the sick room when the physician came. The dog was one of the most attentive and sympathetic auditors. Just before leaving, the physician told the little fellow's mother that the surest way to his recovery was to provide him with some delicate morsel of meat, suggesting that a partridge would be the very thing. The dog listened attentively to all that was said. In the morning he was gone—an unusual occurrence—and could nowhere be found. After breakfast he returned with a live partridge in his mouth, not a bruise or a scratch upon it, and gave it to a member of the family. The partridge was prepared for the little boy, who ate it with a relish. Nothing was thought of the incident, as it was supposed to be an accident. Next day the same feat was repeated, and then the question arose as to whether or not the dog understood what the physician had said."

[Dogs, sometimes like men, are entirely too smart.]

State News.

THE commissioners of Burke county have decided to issue \$40,000 in bonds, half when the railroad is built there from Kutherfordton, the remainder when it is completed to the McDowell or Mitchell line.

Rev. T. W. Guthrie has been treated twice for his sore mouth, and successfully. His physicians think that improvement is manifest and in a few weeks he will be able to resume his labors. The growth of the wart kind and healing is already set in.—*Wilmington Star.*

There is to be a vote next Fall (1888) upon an amendment to the Constitution, providing for an increase in the number of Justices of the Supreme Court to four, making with the Chief Justice five, instead of three, as the Court is at present constituted.

Reports from the counties in the Newbern section are to the effect that the rice crop is not greatly injured, and that only one-fifth to one third of the corn crop is ruined by the rains and floods.

It is stated that Wilkes county recently voted against a subscription to any Railroad proposing to run through that county.

The reports on the crop of sugarcane in the State show it to be the largest in twenty years. Many people are returning to the old methods of making molasses, and recent inventions enable them to turn out an excellent article.

The attendance at the Local Preachers' Conference at Rutherford College was very large. That place was chosen as the permanent site of both the Conference and Tabernacle meetings to commence on the third Saturday in August each year. The following officers were elected: President, W. P. Williams; Vice-President, P. P. McLean, R. H. Whitaker, and Joshua S. Brooks; Financial Secretary, Levi Branson.

The election of Col. L. H. Polk, to the Presidency, and of B. F. Hester, Esq., of Oxford, to the Secretaryship of the Cotton States Farmers' Association, and the choice of Raleigh as the second meeting place of the association are compliments to North Carolina which have failed in no sense of due appreciation. At the same time the wisdom of the association in making these selections is manifest.

THE JOHNSON COUNTY BURGERS IN LIMBO.—Sheriff D. W. Fuller of Johnston county, yesterday brought to the penitentiary five of the gang of burglars, who, during the first part of this year, kept the good citizens of some portions of Johnston county in continual terror by making various bold depredations, breaking into houses and stealing at people in the vicinity of Smithfield and Selma. In the gang there was a colored preacher, who, when they were captured and put upon trial, turned State's evidence, and escaped his dues of the rope or a long term in the penitentiary. Two of those brought in were sentenced to seven years each and three to one year each.—*Raleigh Observer.*

A FAMILY RE-UNION.—Yesterday there was a reunion at the residence of Dr. W. J. Hawkins, corner of North and Blount streets, of the six sons and daughters of the late Col. J. D. Hawkins, representing five Southern States: Col. James B. Hawkins of Texas; Maj. Frank Hawkins of Mississippi; Col. J. D. Hawkins of New Orleans, La.; Dr. A. B. Hawkins of Florida; Gen. P. B. Hawkins of Franklin county, N. C.; Miss Jane A. Hawkins and the host. The brothers are all prominent and successful business men and quiet, genial gentlemen of the old school, most esteemed where best known. Any one who knows either of the family would not doubt that an elegant dinner was served and there was a feast of love and fellowship of soul. The fine health of all is an indication that they have lived amid plenty but used temperately the good things of this world. They will remain in the city several days.—*Raleigh Observer, Aug. 25th.*

There are rumors afloat, which are given for what they are worth, that a syndicate contemplates the purchase of the unfinished Governor's mansion at Raleigh and the grounds whereon it stands, with a view to the establishment of a female college on an extensive scale—a sort of southern Vassar.

OYSTER GROUNDS OF DARE COUNTY.—The shell fish commissioners held their 3d meeting at Nag's Head on Aug. 27th to hear protests to the designation of public oyster grounds of Dare county. No protests were filed. The public grounds were therefore declared in accordance with law and will be open for entry on the 15th of October. There are sixty-one public grounds in the waters of Dare covering four thousand acres. There are also two thousand acres of natural beds. The price for pre-empting public oyster bottoms as fixed by the General Assembly is twenty-five cents per acre. This seems to put it within the reach of a man to have an oyster garden and all who want one should make their entries before Jay Gould or some big monopolist steps in and takes the whole grounds.—*Newbern Journal.*

A reward of \$100 is offered for Charles Simms, colored, a noted burglar, wanted at Wilson, N. C. He is described as of a dark ginger-cake color, between 35 and 38 years of age, five feet four to six inches high, weighs about 150 pounds, walks quick and is rather nervous in his movements, has big eyes, and sometimes wears a moustache or small goatee.

The Cape Fear & Yadkin Valley Railroad trains run regularly to Dalton, which is within four miles of Pilot Mountain. They speak of burning barrels of tar and resin from the pinnacle of old Pilot when the road reaches that point.

Quite a large number of young men from various sections of the State have been passing through our city for the last few days to attend the projected session at the University at Chapel Hill. It is quite pleasant for us to announce that the prospects for the coming year are very flattering.—*Goldsboro Argus.*

A horrible state of affairs exists in the drought-stricken districts of southwestern Virginia and West Virginia. A deadly disease has broken out, caused by a mineral deposit in the dried-up streams. Not a single family in a whole county is free from it, and the disease is spreading. Two hundred people have died in McDowell county alone.

Railroads and Politics.

Senator Butler commends the Administration and criticizes the Railroads.

From the Washington Star, 26th.

A Star reporter encountered Senator Butler of S. C., to-day, and he was severely criticizing the management of the Virginia Midland railroad, the basis of his criticism being the recent accident near Orange Courthouse.

"Were you on the train, General?" inquired the Star reporter. "Yes; and the accident resulted from the most inexcusable criminal carelessness. We had a very narrow escape from a terrible disaster."

"What appeared to be the cause?" "Well, I do not know with certainty. It occurred between two telegraph stations, within a half mile of one at Orange Courthouse and six miles from another at Rapidan Station, between 5 and 6 o'clock in the morning, in broad daylight. The train from the White Sulphur Springs, on which I was a passenger, ran into a freight train coming up from Rapidan Station, both moving on the same track in opposite directions. Of course the fault will be charged to some subordinate, but nobody is to blame but the railroad authorities themselves. The passengers ought to have been forwarded in at least three hours, whereas we were kept there ten or twelve hours, without the slightest regard for our comfort or convenience."

"Were there any casualties?" "The fireman and engineer of the freight train were injured, the former, I learned, very seriously. Our engineer of the passenger train saved himself by jumping from his engine before the collision."

To what do you attribute these frequent railroad accidents?

"Well, I think there are several causes. In the first place, too much red tape in the so-called system of management. The responsible management is too far removed from the operations, and have not sufficient familiarity with the employees or conditions. In the second place, railroad companies, many of them, work their employees to death on inadequate pay. Some plan ought to be devised which would prevent any company from working its employees more than twelve hours continuously. Some of them, I learn, run their engines, firemen, and conductors sixteen or seventeen hours consecutively without intermission for resting. Human nature can't stand it. The result is, the poor man goes to sleep on duty, and when an accident occurs, is made the scapegoat. It is inhuman and wrong, and railroad authorities ought to be held to strict accountability."

"I had just thought of one, I proposed and voted against the Inter-State Commerce bill because, among other reasons, I thought, and still think, Congress has no jurisdiction; but if we are to have the law it might as well be made useful and of some benefit, and I am not sure if an amendment to that law might not be framed which would accomplish a great good by simply making it a penal offense for any railroad company to require more than ten or twelve hours' consecutive work from any employee engaged in running trains. Too many lives are at stake to allow such parsimoniousness toward those operatives who have their lives in their keeping. Of course, railroad accidents are unavoidable in many cases, but this one near Orange Courthouse was wholly without excuse, and would never have happened under efficient and proper management. I presume one or two employees will be discharged and the entire blame laid on them, and that is about the only satisfaction that will be attempted to be vouchsafed."

Senator Butler was very emphatic in the opinion that the Inter-State law should be amended so as to protect the traveling public against reckless and careless management of railroads. "The Government," he said, "regulate steamboats, travel, prohibiting how many passengers a vessel may carry and other regulations, and as long as we have the Inter-State law we might as well make it protect the passengers of railroads." The Senator remarked that he would at the coming session of Congress offer an amendment to the Inter-State bill so as to provide for protection of the traveling public.

The convention turned into a political channel, and Senator Butler, speaking of President Cleveland, said that his re-election next year by the National Democratic Convention is certain if the President lives. "Why, there is but one sentiment in the party," he continued, "and that is in support of the President. The grumblers are too few to amount to anything. The South is solid for Cleveland, and he will be re-elected. In my opinion Bismarck will be the Republican nominee and Cleveland will defeat him again. I do not think the present general prosperity continues until the next Presidential election there is no telling what the vote for Cleveland will be. Cleveland's great strength lies in the confidence the business interests have in him. He is safe, conservative, and cautious. All classes of business-men including farmers, feel that he is a safe man at the head of the Government, and they will continue him there. I was recently in a party of northern capitalists—all Republicans—and though we did not talk politics they let fall complimentary remarks about this Administration. Now, while such men might not vote for him, they perhaps would not vote against him. Their expressions indicate a negative force that would count at the polls."

THE YOUTHFUL CRIMINAL'S SENTENCE COMMUTED.—A dispatch from Columbia, S. C., says: "Gov. Richardson has commuted the sentence of Oxy Cherry, a 12-year old girl convicted of murder, and sentenced to be hanged in September, to imprisonment for five years. The Governor received a large number of communications from the North and North-west pleading for mercy for the child and asking that he would allow no bloody stain to be put upon South Carolina and the United States by the hanging of an infant. He made a thorough examination of the case and could find nothing but evidence of premeditated murder. The girl was convicted of killing a two-year old child by administering a dose of concentrated lye. The Governor appealed to the Judge who passed sentence for his recommendation. The Judge replied that a case of murder had been made out but that on account of the tender age of the girl, he thought she should not be hanged, but imprisoned for a term of years."

Two tramps called at the house of an old lady who was alone at Maple Grove, Minnesota, and asked for food. After eating, they threw the old lady in a cistern and ransacked the house, capturing \$170 in cash and \$1,350 in bank certificates.

[Arrest tramps or kill them as soon as you find them.]

THE YOUTHFUL CRIMINAL'S SENTENCE COMMUTED.—A dispatch from Columbia, S. C., says: "Gov. Richardson has commuted the sentence of Oxy Cherry, a 12-year old girl convicted of murder, and sentenced to be hanged in September, to imprisonment for five years. The Governor received a large number of communications from the North and North-west pleading for mercy for the child and asking that he would allow no bloody stain to be put upon South Carolina and the United States by the hanging of an infant. He made a thorough examination of the case and could find nothing but evidence of premeditated murder. The girl was convicted of killing a two-year old child by administering a dose of concentrated lye. The Governor appealed to the Judge who passed sentence for his recommendation. The Judge replied that a case of murder had been made out but that on account of the tender age of the girl, he thought she should not be hanged, but imprisoned for a term of years."

Two tramps called at the house of an old lady who was alone at Maple Grove, Minnesota, and asked for food. After eating, they threw the old lady in a cistern and ransacked the house, capturing \$170 in cash and \$1,350 in bank certificates.

[Arrest tramps or kill them as soon as you find them.]

THE YOUTHFUL CRIMINAL'S SENTENCE COMMUTED.—A dispatch from Columbia, S. C., says: "Gov. Richardson has commuted the sentence of Oxy Cherry, a 12-year old girl convicted of murder, and sentenced to be hanged in September, to imprisonment for five years. The Governor received a large number of communications from the North and North-west pleading for mercy for the child and asking that he would allow no bloody stain to be put upon South Carolina and the United States by the hanging of an infant. He made a thorough examination of the case and could find nothing but evidence of premeditated murder. The girl was convicted of killing a two-year old child by administering a dose of concentrated lye. The Governor appealed to the Judge who passed sentence for his recommendation. The Judge replied that a case of murder had been made out but that on account of the tender age of the girl, he thought she should not be hanged, but imprisoned for a term of years."

Two tramps called at the house of an old lady who was alone at Maple Grove, Minnesota, and asked for food. After eating, they threw the old lady in a cistern and ransacked the house, capturing \$170 in cash and \$1,350 in bank certificates.

[Arrest tramps or kill them as soon as you find them.]

THE YOUTHFUL CRIMINAL'S SENTENCE COMMUTED.—A dispatch from Columbia, S. C., says: "Gov. Richardson has commuted the sentence of Oxy Cherry, a 12-year old girl convicted of murder, and sentenced to be hanged in September, to imprisonment for five years. The Governor received a large number of communications from the North and North-west pleading for mercy for the child and asking that he would allow no bloody stain to be put upon South Carolina and the United States by the hanging of an infant. He made a thorough examination of the case and could find nothing but evidence of premeditated murder. The girl was convicted of killing a two-year old child by administering a dose of concentrated lye. The Governor appealed to the Judge who passed sentence for his recommendation. The Judge replied that a case of murder had been made out but that on account of the tender age of the girl, he thought she should not be hanged, but imprisoned for a term of years."

Two tramps called at the house of an old lady who was alone at Maple Grove, Minnesota, and asked for food. After eating, they threw the old lady in a cistern and ransacked the house, capturing \$170 in cash and \$1,350 in bank certificates.

[Arrest tramps or kill them as soon as you find them.]

The Hip Pocket.

The hip pocket and carrying of pistols should be numbered among the things of the past. There is a statute upon our books that makes it a misdemeanor to carry a pistol concealed about the person, but this is only a book, it is worse than no law at all, upon the subject. No one is ever, or rarely convicted, and if any are, the punishment amounts to nothing, they are generally discharged upon the payment of cost. What the country at this time wants, is, that the Legislature pass a law making it felony to carry concealed weapons, excepting certain officers of the law. You can buy a pistol now from 50 cents all the way up, this puts one in the pocket of every boy in the land, and many a good man has lost his life by a pistol ball in the hands of a reckless or drunken man and many bitherto worthy men, have gone to the gallows by a useless and improper use of the pistol. Ninety-nine out of every hundred boys and men now carrying pistols have no need for them and ought not to be allowed to do so. Would it not be wise in the next Legislature to make carrying concealed weapons a felony.—*Hillsboro Recorder.*

[Yes, let it be made a felony to carry concealed weapons, or let the sale of pistols be prohibited.]

Pharmaceutical. The review and marking of the examination papers of